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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1946.

MAIN STUMBLING-BLOCK TO DISARMAMENT REMOVED

Shantung Holds Centre Of China War Stage

Nanking, Dec. 4.
The Central News Agency from Tsinan said that the Communists, thrusting into south-west Shantung, captured Chuan-cheng, the ancient provincial capital south-west of Tsinan and also occupied Chinghsing, the old home of Confucius south-west of Chufu.

More than 30,000 Reds probed Government strongpoints on the outskirts of Taichuang in southern Shantung, the Ta Kung Pao said. At Matsui, midway between Hotse and Tungming in western Shantung, more than 25,000 Reds were reforming for what the Ta Kung Pao said was an expected drive against the Government-held eastern section of the Lunghai railroad.

The newspaper quoted Chin Chansen, political committee man of the

LEWIS AND MINERS' UNION FINED

Washington, Dec. 4.
The Federal District Court today fined the United Mine-workers of America \$3,500,000 and Mr. John Lewis, President of the Union, \$10,000. The Union gave notice of appeal.

The case arose out of the United States Government's contention that he had no right to terminate the working contract reached between his union and the Government last May—Reuters.

Communist Party in North Kiangsu, was instructing Red Army units to avoid a frontal war with the better equipped Nationalists. The source added that Chih told the Communists that the all-out Nationalist drive on Red positions in northern Kiangsu might force the Communists to retreat southward and possibly menace the national capital of Nanking.—Associated Press.

Dairen Entry Held-Up
Nanking, Dec. 5.
An official military spokesman said troops were awaiting the green light from the Foreign Ministry before entering Dairen. He said, "the occupation of Dairen has international complications, which must receive full consideration, therefore the troops mopping Liaoning Peninsula have been given specific orders not to enter Dairen until the Foreign Ministry concludes negotiations now under way with Soviet leaders."

He said that Government forces will continue to observe the safety zone around Dairen regardless of military developments. Manchurian reports said that the Communists are continuing to evacuate personnel and equipment from Dairen with government troops a few miles away.—Associated Press.

BITTER FIGHTING IN NORTHERN GREECE

Athens, Dec. 4.
Vicious fighting has again broken out in the Mount Parnon district of the Peloponnese, according to press reports on Wednesday, which listed more than a score of gendarmes killed in an attack by 200 guerrillas at Paleochori, about 45 miles north-east of Sparta.

The fighting at Paleochori started at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, the guerrillas attacking with machine-guns, grenades and mortars after occupying all the mountain passes to the village, the reports said.

Forty gendarmes resisted for six hours but had to admit defeat after all their ammunition had become exhausted. Some, including a few wounded, escaped to Kosmas, 26 miles south and Leonida Hill, 16 miles south-east on the Gulf of Argolis across from the Greek naval base at Nauplion.

Press reports said that in Kozani in Western Macedonia, 12 soldiers, one officer and a civilian, were sentenced to death for subversive activity and mutiny, and another 22 soldiers were given life imprisonment for offences against the State.

In Vannitsa, three guerrillas were executed after being found guilty of similar charges.—Associated Press.

U. S. To Send Troops?
London, Dec. 4.
The Moscow circle to-day, quoting well-informed circles in Athens, said

MAJOR SWITCH IN RUSSIAN POLICY

WILL NOT INSIST ON A FIGHT ON ENFORCEMENT OF VETO IN UNO

NEW YORK, DEC. 4.
RUSSIA TO-DAY TOLD THE UNITED NATIONS THAT SHE WOULD NOT INSIST ON A FIGHT ON VETO ENFORCEMENT AND DISARMAMENT.

The action represented, firstly, a major switch in Soviet policy; secondly, removal of the main stumbling-block to a world disarmament pact; thirdly, a badly-needed shot in the arm for the United Nations.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Vyacheslav Molotov, announced the change in policy to the Political and Security Committee after a two-day delay in the disarmament debate.

The Committee immediately named a sub-committee to write a resolution for the General Assembly. The resolution will call for a general reduction in arms and the outlawing of atomic weapons and other instruments for man's destruction.

The sub-committee consists of Great Britain, the United States, France, The Netherlands, Canada, India, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Panama, China, Norway, Poland, Mexico, Egypt, Brazil, Australia, Colombia, Belgium, Syria, Ukraine and Argentina.

Mr. Molotov said that Russia was prepared to accept the United States disarmament plan, subject to Soviet amendments.

"Any attempt to prevent control or inspection would be nothing but violation of the Security Council's decision. Talks about veto in connection with control and inspection is devoid of foundation," Mr. Molotov declared.

In announcing Russian support with reservations of the United States proposals, Mr. Molotov said the Soviet had found support to a varying degree in all the draft submitted to the Committee.

Draft Not Satisfactory
"It appears to us that the American draft is worthy of particular attention in this respect. But we cannot be satisfied with the draft in the form presented," he added.

"We consider it insufficiently clear and somewhat one-sided. We shall submit our amendments to this draft. We are prepared not to insist on the draft we have submitted and to express our willingness to take the form of discussion."

that America had agreed to send troops to Greece.

The decision was the result of negotiations with the British, the radio said.—Reuters.

It will be recalled that Constantin Tsaldaris, Greek Prime Minister, said on October 9 that he regarded as an important demonstration in favour of Greece the United States declaration at the Peace Conference that she would put armed forces at the disposal of the United Nations in the event of the security of Greece being endangered by aggressive action of any country.

Collaboration Charges
Athens, Dec. 4.
Fourteen soldiers and civilians, including one officer, were sentenced to death by court-martial at Kozani, in western Macedonia, to-day after a trial on charges of high treason and collaboration with guerrillas.

Twenty-two other soldiers were given terms of life imprisonment and 23 were sentenced to shorter terms.—Reuters.

The United States proposals regarding inspection should be amplified by the Soviet suggestions for the establishment of two control commissions—one for the reduction of armaments and the other regarding the use of atomic energy.

He said: "There is need to dispel the obvious misunderstanding which has arisen in the course of discussion. The Soviet Government favour adopting the decision regarding a general reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic weapons by the Security Council."

"Adoption of such decision involves a number of difficulties. Only achievement of unanimity in the Security Council can guarantee the adoption of any decision regarding a reduction of armaments."

"Not one Power but the Security Council as a whole, including the five permanent members, will be interested in achieving such unanimity."

Right Of Veto
Accordingly, in framing a decision regarding a reduction of armaments in the Security Council any right of veto until unanimity has been achieved between all great Powers and the Council can take its decision under the regulations of the Charter.

"Observance of this principle is essential in the course of decisions in the Security Council, which will relate to establishment of a commission." (Continued on Page 4)

ATTEMPT TO MURDER
NEI CHIEF OF STAFF
Batavia, Dec. 4.
The Aneta news agency to-day reported that an attempt was made to assassinate Maj-Gen D. C. Burman van Vreeden, Chief of the Netherlands Staff of the Netherlands Indies Army, while he was inspecting Dutch boundaries on the east coast of Sumatra.

One shot was reported to have been fired at Gen van Vreeden from a distance of 20 yards, but he was not hit.

Gen van Vreeden and his staff conferred with local officials in an attempt to implement locally the cease fire agreement signed on October 14.—United Press.

AUSTRALIAN GESTURE

Sydney, Dec. 5.
A nation-wide question-and-answer poll recently revealed that three out of four Australians are willing to submit to food rationing for another year so that as much food as possible can be sent overseas.

The poll question: "Do you think Australia should continue the present rationing of butter, meat and sugar for another year so that as much food as possible can be sent overseas?"

Of every 100 people questioned, an average of 72 replied "yes," 20 said "no" and only two had "no opinion."

Professionals, office workers and skilled artisans were more inclined to accept rationing than semi-skilled and unskilled workers, but even those in the latter groups expressed three-to-two majority in favour of continued rationing.—Associated Press.

Jew Terrorism Denounced By Agency Leaders

Jerusalem, Dec. 4.
Jewish terrorism was denounced to-night in the most strongly worded anti-terrorist declaration yet to emanate from responsible Jewish leaders.

"Bloodshed must cease," said a joint statement issued by the temporary Executive of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Council.

The statement drew the "urgent attention of the Yishuv (Jewish community) to the grave dangers and disasters that threaten the entire Yishuv if terrorist outrages of isolated groups do not immediately cease."

The statement continued: "In its struggle against the British White Paper policy, with all suffering and bitterness included, organized Yishuv never besmirched the banner of terrorism."

JAP SURRENDER OFFER IN JULY, 1945

London, Dec. 4.
The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, told the House of Commons in reply to a question that Japan offered to surrender on July 22, 1945, 15 days before the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. He said the decision to use the bomb was made in the beginning of July.

"The first bomb was dropped on August 6," said Mr. Attlee. "The offer of peace was made by Japan on July 22 and not accepted until August 19."—United Press.

Zionism by the murder of innocent British soldiers and policemen. A small minority of the community, defying the discipline of Yishuv and the Zionist movement, and acting on its own urging is using murder and terror as a political weapon."

Ammunition Seized
Enough small arms ammunition to equip 8,000 men with 30 rounds per man have been seized by the British Army in raids on Jewish underground arms dumps during the last 12 months, according to a "conservative estimate" given officially to-night.

The number of rounds of small arms ammunition unearthed was nearly 1,400,000. In the same period more than 9,600 rounds of small arms ammunition were seized from the Arabs.

One year's arms haul by British armed forces in Palestine also included 121 mortars found in Jewish secret caches—enough to equip 15 battalions—and 4,600 bombs.

From Jewish arsenals, troops and police also netted 412 rifles, 319 pistols, 15 machine-guns and 79 Tommy-guns.

From Arab districts the authorities unearthed 92 rifles, 223 pistols and 10 bombs.—Reuters.

Most Explosive Issue

New York, Dec. 4.
King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, in an exclusive interview with New York Times correspondent Cyrus Sulzberger in a tent outside Mecca—because no non-Muslim is allowed to enter the Holy City—said the Arab nations consider the only just solution to the Palestine

PERSIAN TROOPS MOVE INTO AZERBAIJAN

London, Dec. 4.
Persian Government troops were reported to-night to have crossed the frontier into the "home rule" province of Azerbaijan in Northern Persia.

The present rulers of the province—the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Democratic Party—issued a proclamation over the Tabriz radio, saying the Central Government troops had attacked Azerbaijan soldiers.

Describing the Persian Government troops as "invaders," the proclamation said: "Students, professors, workers and youth organisations, we call on you to defend our freedom and our republic. We shall defend it to the last drop of blood."

Tension between the Azerbaijan and Persian Governments has been mounting since the Prime Minister, Ghamam es Sultaneh, announced last week that Government forces would enter Azerbaijan to supervise the

ALLIED TROOPS TO WITHDRAW FROM ITALY

Trieste, Dec. 4.
Lt-General Sir John Harding, commander of the British armed forces in Central Mediterranean, announced to-day that preparations have begun for the evacuation of American and British occupation troops from Italy and for the regrouping of the same forces within the proposed free state of Trieste "to be ready for whatever agreement the Big Four reach in New York."

(The Big Four Foreign Ministers in New York have agreed to reduce the occupying forces in the free state as soon as the Governor has been named and takes office. Thereafter the occupying forces will be limited to 5,000 Americans, British and Yugo-Slavs with the stipulation that all troops will be withdrawn within 90 days after the Governor takes office unless he specifically requests their retention.)

Oakland Strike Relaxation

Oakland, Calif., Dec. 4.
The leaders of the mass walk-out of 100,000 American Federation of Labour members which tied up this California city for two days agreed to relax their blockade on foodstuffs and gasoline and to permit the re-opening of downtown restaurants.

The Union also agreed to appoint a four-man sub-committee to explore, with the city manager, Mr. John F. Hassett, some avenue of possible settlement of the walk-out. The action came within a few hours of the City Council's order invoking a state of emergency in the strike-bound metropolitan area.

The Union agreement was the first break in the paralyzing strike called yesterday in protest against police action in breaking a picket line on Sunday.—United Press.

Britain Seeking To Ban Use Of Atom Bomb

London, Dec. 4.
The British Government is seeking to prohibit the use of the atomic bomb.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, said to-night when asked in the House of Commons to-day by Communist Phil Piratin if it was the Government's intention to seek to prohibit the use of atomic bombs.

When Mr. Piratin asked if he understood from that gratifying answer that the British representative in the United States at this time had been informed of this opinion and was acting upon it, Mr. Attlee again replied affirmatively.—Reuters.

problem is to make it an Arab state.

King Ibn said that despite the Arab dislike of President Truman's interference in the Palestine problem, he has never even considered cancelling or voiding the oil concessions being developed in his country by American firms.

He said Palestine is the world's most explosive issue to-day and that he is still in communication with President Truman with whom he is exchanging correspondence on the subject constantly.—United Press.

forthcoming elections for the Persian Parliament.

Hints on the possibility of a clash came in the exchange of a number of messages between the Prime Minister and the local authorities in Tabriz, Azerbaijan capital, in which the Azerbaijanians objected to troops being sent into the province. Ghamam es Sultaneh has repeatedly declared that troops would be sent and that Tabriz would be responsible for the consequences of any resistance.

Yesterday he issued a proclamation declaring that the elections would begin on Saturday as arranged except in Azerbaijan, where they would be held when troops were in position.—Reuters.

Intervention Policy In Spain Denounced By Wellington Koo

New York, Dec. 4.
China's Dr. Wellington Koo to-day denounced any "intervention" in Spain such as, in his opinion, would be implied in a collective diplomatic break.

Speaking during the debate on Spain in the Political and Economic Committee of the General Assembly, Dr. Koo announced support for the United States resolution which requests the Spanish Government to relinquish power to a "broadly representative government," besides the barring of Franco Spain from all United Nations bodies and affiliated agencies.

In rejecting various resolutions presented by Poland and Byelorussia, aiming at a diplomatic break and economic sanctions, Dr. Koo stated that in China's view Franco Spain "may be a potential threat to peace but not an imminent threat." "Therefore," he declared, "China does not support these proposals."

Emphasising that China had never recognised Franco and did not intend to do so in future, Dr. Koo said China did not entertain any illusions on the nature of the Franco regime.

"From the beginning, Spain fostered a hostile attitude towards my country. It supported Japan. There is no friendship for Franco in my country."

He said, however, that any action such as a diplomatic break would mean intervention.

"We support the United States proposal because it does not mean intervention, but allows the Spanish people to change their government to a representative one by free election without force or intimidation. The United States proposal also respects the principle of self-determination of peoples. We hope the spirit of compromise which underlies the United States proposal will win it support in this Committee."—United Press.

Ready for Civil War
New York, Dec. 4.
Dr. Jose Giral, Prime Minister of the Spanish Republican Government in exile, commented in the New York Times on the United States resolution rejecting a break in diplomatic relations with the Franco regime.

He said that the United States failure to propose any direct action or aid for the Spanish people invited them to begin a civil war in which the Franco regime would have an overwhelming superiority of materials. The Spanish people were nevertheless ready to begin a civil war to overthrow the regime, if the United Nations refused to provide positive help, Giral asserted.

In the all-day debate in the Political Security Committee of the General Assembly, Leon Jouhaux, Secretary-General of the French Confederation of Trade Unions, declared that workers in all countries would take action if the United Nations refused to adopt positive measures for helping the Spanish people to turn out Franco.

Thorez defeated in the result of rank and file Socialist defiance of the Party Council down decision to support the Communist secretary, who had once been branded as an Army deserter. Twenty-four of 101 Socialists in the Assembly revolted.

After to-day's disastrous defeat, the proposed Left-wing coalition was accorded little chance. The political scene was confused as frantic negotiations began immediately after the Assembly adjourned in an attempt to find a candidate who could command a majority of votes.—United Press.

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Pioneers In Century Of Painless Surgery

The centenary celebrations of anaesthesia now taking place in Britain and the United States, mark the greatest single step in the scientific progress of medicine. For it is only since October 16, 1846, that a surgeon has been able to say to a patient before an operation "you won't feel any pain."

In honour of the medical pioneers who first made this boon to mankind possible, Britain's Royal College of Surgeons is sponsoring a full scale exhibition, tracing the development of anaesthesia, opened by Lord Moran at the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, London, while the anniversary is also being observed at dinners, demonstrations, and meetings in Britain and the United States.

The credit for the discovery of anaesthesia belongs to no single man or country. Ever since surgery was first practised, efforts have been made to obviate or lessen the pain of the operating table. As far back as the sixteenth century an English physician named Bullen mentioned the possibility of putting patients who were to be operated upon into "a trance or deep, terrible dream." But it was the chemist who provided the real answer to the problem.

Nitrous Oxide Hint

In 1800, Britain's Humphrey Davy wrote "as nitrous oxide seems capable of destroying physical pain it may probably be used with advantage in surgical operations." And in 1829 Michael Faraday, the great electrician, showed that ether was capable of producing unconsciousness.

An American dentist, W. T. G. Morton of Boston, U.S.A., began to use it in 1846 for extraction of teeth and on October 16 of the same year he provided apparatus and acted as anaesthetist to Dr. Warren, senior surgeon of Massachusetts General Hospital, who performed the first public operation using sulphuric ether to prevent the patient feeling any pain.

In Britain, Robert Liston, famous surgeon of University College Hospital, London, used the same anaesthetic for amputation of a leg of a patient on December 21 that year, and early in the following year, James Young Simpson, Professor of Midwifery at Edinburgh University, introduced it for both childbirth and surgical operations.

In those days however, sulphuric ether had many disadvantages—difficulties of administration, an unpleasant smell, and a bad effect on the patient. Simpson therefore began to search for a better substitute especially for use in childbirth.

He found it—in a bottle of sweet smelling liquid which had been sent to him by Dumas, the celebrated French chemist. This liquid, first produced by the great German chemist Liebig in 1831, was chloroform.

Chloroform Experiments

As with many other researchers, Simpson was not afraid to test the unknown quantity on himself. With two colleagues equally stout-hearted, he inhaled the vapour after a supper party in his home. And soon all three became unconscious. Hearing the crash as they fell from their chairs, Mrs. Simpson rushed into the room. Only the fact that they had ceased to inhale the fumes when they fell from before the table, saved them from death. But Simpson was delighted with his discovery.

Almost immediately afterwards, he used chloroform in a delicate operation on a little boy—with complete success. And very soon, with equally excellent results, Simpson extended the new anaesthetic to his maternity work.

Opposition to its use in childbirth was first made by the general public, on biblical grounds. Chapter 3, verse 16, was quoted against it "in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children." But Simpson neatly countered this with another quotation from Genesis: "and the Lord

God caused a deep sleep, to fall upon Adam and he slept, and he took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh instead thereof." Gradually the Scottish surgeon wore down opposition by the splendid results he obtained, and the administration of chloroform to Queen Victoria during one of the Royal births greatly increased its popularity in England.

The risk of death from heart failure or stoppage of respiration, however—though among experts not more than one in five thousand—caused the continued use of ether in Britain. In a purer form than sulphuric compound and administered with a special inhaler invented by Clover in 1876, it is safer than chloroform.

Local Anaesthesia

An important further step in painless surgery was made towards the end of the last century with the introduction of local anaesthetics. These, introduced into a limited area of the body, produce paralysis of the sensory nerves of an affected part without the patient losing consciousness or affecting vital organs.

Cocaine, prepared from the coca shrub of Peru, was chiefly used, but more recently chemists have produced synthetic derivatives which, while being equally effective, are safer.

In spinal anaesthesia, developed early in the present century, a few drops of one of these cocaine derivatives are injected into the spine of the patient to render the lower part of his body and limbs insensible. Major operations can thus be performed while a patient reads or smokes, totally oblivious of what is happening behind a screen which hides the surgeon and his assistants at the lower end of the operating table.

During the first and second world wars, further progress has been made in the science of anaesthetics and wonderful new drugs are periodically discovered. But it is to those early pioneers, whose invaluable contribution is now being remembered in the centenary celebrations, that medicine and mankind are most indebted.

Dredging Work On Singapore Flying Boat Anchorage

Nearly \$1,000,000 will be spent by the Singapore Government this year and next year on dredging operations in the seaplane channel and anchorage at Kallang—the important gateway for Singapore's flying boat traffic from the United Kingdom and Australia.

The difficult task of clearing up more than 400,000 tons of accumulated silt from the river bed has already begun. Work is now being mainly concentrated in the anchorage where three dredges are engaged in seven-hour per day shifts.

MALAYAN LEAVE CENTRE

Plans for a permanent inter-Services leave centre in the Cameron Highlands, Malaya's central mountain block, to accommodate about 2,000 Service personnel, have been submitted to the War Office.

The scheme is to cost several million dollars if the Army can acquire another 200 acres in addition to the 100 acres they already own at Brinchang. If they have to seek a more remote site, roads may put up the cost another million dollars.—Reuter.



Deborah Kerr, British film star, often heard in British Broadcasting Corporation short wave services, taking part in the BBC's new series of Women's Hour programmes, in which she was one of the special listening panel of three women representing various sections of women's interests in Great Britain who were invited by the BBC to comment on the first programme in this series.

NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR HEART OPERATIONS

The day when surgeons will be able to stop the heart from beating and operate on it for any disorder while keeping the brain and body alive with oxygenated blood is not far off, according to one of the nation's outstanding heart specialists, Dr Claude S. Beck.

Dr Beck is associate surgeon at University Hospital, Cleveland, and professor of Neurosurgery at Western Reserve University. He made the prediction at a meeting of the 14th Annual Institute of the Ohio State Nurses Association there.

Nature made a bad anatomical arrangement when she gave man a heart with only two coronary arteries and separated them, Dr Beck said. He added that nature had done much better by the turtle in giving it more coronary arteries to nourish and supply oxygen to its heart.

"Whoever heard of a turtle falling dead?" Dr Beck asked. The doctor foresaw an instrument with a light and a series of lenses so arranged it could be put down the jugular vein and pushed into the ventricle to enable surgeons to peer inside blood vessels. Through such direct approach, he said, operations could be performed that it would revolutionize treatment of cardiovascular diseases.

"Cardiovascular work of the future will require vivid surgical imagination and hard work through research," Dr Beck said. "It will not be the medicine of the past. The medical man now can study your heart only by indirect methods—the stethoscope, fluoroscope, cardiogram." Dr Beck pointed out surgeons today are separated from the heart "by the blanket of the chest wall."

"I believe we are at the point where we can use the direct approach and look inside the heart and blood vessels," he said. "I have performed about 5,000 experimental operations on animals to learn how to supply the heart with more blood—and prevent its failure. Early experiments showed he could live off four branches of blood vessels in a given

Malayan People's Restaurants' Meals

The price of a meal at People's Restaurants in Malaya was recently reduced from 35 cents to 25 cents (Straits currency).

Menus are published daily in the newspapers. This is a sample: fried rice, Vienna sausages with onions and tomato; sauce or egg—curry; kangkong and fresh pineapple.

LANGUAGE OF MALAY YOUTH NOT IMPROVED

After three and a half years of Japanese occupation and a post-war flood of American films, the spoken English of the youth in Malaya has not improved.

Educational authorities in Singapore hope that a carefully selected educational film each month, besides increasing general knowledge, may improve the accent and vocabulary of Malayan youth.

Besides films such as "Henry V" and "Burma Victory" it is planned to show Ministry of Information films to broaden geographic and scientific knowledge, and to increase the children's appreciation of music and other arts.—Reuter.

SHOULD WOMEN BE PAID THE SAME

(Continued from Page 12)

THE commission, agreeing that women are not inferior beings, philosophically propounds that in the natural course of things, they will, inevitably improve their position, especially if they organise themselves.

But—and here is the real secret of the commission's attitude—give women full equality of wages now would tear at the roots of full employment.

So working women, be patient. That is not my advice. It shines through 100,000 words of the turgid, complicated and highly qualified pronouncement of His Majesty's Royal Commission.

BRAZIL-PORTUGUESE AIR AGREEMENT

London, Dec. 4. The Brazilian and Portuguese negotiations for an air agreement were concluded to-day.

The agreement, to be signed shortly, provides for the establishment of mutual airlines between the two countries.—United Press.

SINGAPORE WAR ON HAWKERS

Singapore's fight against black market hawkers who are upsetting every rationing scheme, and unlicensed vegetable vendors, who are causing a serious health problem in crowded areas of the city, has entered a new phase.

Food Control Department inspectors and the Police are to step up the frequency of raids on notorious black market areas, says the Straits Times.

Raids are now being carried out daily and sometimes twice a day. Experience gained from the first raids carried out some months ago has been put to good use.

Several streets which formerly appeared impossible to clear of hawkers have been improved out of all recognition.

Systematic destruction of stalls belonging to unlicensed hawkers of controlled goods has had a salutary effect, but the problem of "mobile" hawkers especially cigarette sellers, continues and these are being made the special object of present raids which will continue till something like the pre-war situation is arrived at.

Vegetable vendors present another problem which is being tackled vigorously.

Licensed Markets

One object of the raids—to encourage vendors to enter the licensed temporary markets established close to the "business" areas—has been more successful recently.

Cigarettes, biscuits, milk and other controlled goods, except perishable vegetables and foodstuffs, collected in the raids are stored in the Food Control office before disposal to distributors. Revenue from this goes to Government.

Perishable foods are delivered immediately after every raid to orphanages run by Catholic nuns and the Home for the Aged run by the Sisters of the Poor.

Phraseology Of Japanese Constitution

Four little words, inserted in the new Japanese constitution shortly before its passages, may some day be used to permit Japan legally to rearm, say Washington observers.

In the constitution, passed by the Diet and promulgated November 3, the Japanese people "forever reject the use of force as a means of settling disputes with other nations."

As a consequence of this renunciation the constitution provides that land, sea and air forces "will never be maintained"—referring to the renunciation of war—were prefixed to the ban on armed forces.

According to some circles here the inserted phrase implies that armed forces could be maintained for purely defensive purposes. But since in modern war the only defence is the ability to mount a powerful counter-offence, it is believed the four words constitute a loop-hole which could eventually permit Japanese rearmament.

A further last-minute addition to the constitution provides that "the Prime Minister and the members of the Cabinet shall be civilians."

Observers point out that if armed forces were non-existent there could be no military men, and hence there would be no need of such a provision, reports United Press.

Constitution Amendment

U.S. officials are not, however, placing their hopes of a permanently peaceful Japan on the "no war" pledge, which it is recognised may be made partly as an attempt to please Japan's conquerors. When Japan regains her full sovereignty, which she must some day, she could easily amend her constitution.

For the immediate postwar period the allies will keep Japan forcibly disarmed. This may extend for 25 to 40 years if the other allies accept a U.S. proposal for a treaty to keep her from rearming during some such period.

After that, it is felt, it will be up to whatever world security programme is in force to prevent possible new Japanese aggression together with the enlightened self-interest of the Japanese people themselves.

In the latter connection it is said that the constitutional provision barring military men from the Cabinet may put a sharp brake on possible revival of militarism in post-war Japan.

Empty Beer Bottles For DP Babies

The American Red Cross reports that its recreation workers in occupied Germany have a new job—collecting bottles for babies of displaced persons.

There is an acute shortage of baby bottles and the beer bottles will fit. Red Cross recreation centres do not permit beer on the premises, but bins are being put up, asking soldiers to deposit their empty bottles from the post exchanges.—United Press.

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IN

"CASABLANCA"

Correspondence

Naturalisation

(To the Editor, H.K. Telegraph)

Sir,—I read with interest in Saturday's "Telegraph" the article by Section Delmer "Thinking Aloud," which deals with the question of naturalisation of stateless persons in England.

Expressing his satisfaction over the fact that those of them who fought with the British forces during the war are now to become British subjects, the author says "Inter-alia:—Continuous residence in Britain for 5 years should not, I suggest, be considered sufficient in itself to entitle a man or a woman to British citizenship."

"I would demand that in every case proof should be given, not that the alien earned the honour by service and sacrifice."

And further:—"Let us not debase the value of our citizenship by granting it to a lot of people for whom it is nothing more than an address."

The point raised by the author is very interesting and has a bearing upon the question of naturalisation in Hongkong. In peace-time, the requisites for naturalisation were: continuous residence for five years and good character, which was sufficient.

These in peace, but not in war. The Crown Colony was under enemy occupation, and among those "stateless" who have now been given the right to apply for naturalisation were, on one hand, members of the British forces who risked their lives for the Crown and narrowly escaped death in POW camps and, on the other, those who enjoyed the privilege of being "third nationals" during the war and carried on their businesses and occupations under the enemy rule getting more or less prosperous while the former lost all, including their freedom, on a par with the British.

While it is known that as a rule naturalisations could not be granted during the war in any part of the British Empire, it is a sad fact that still now 16 months after its end, those who had fought for it in Hongkong have not become naturalised and not even promised priority when applying for it. Consequently, they remain deprived of certain civic rights and subject to all the restrictions implied in the "stateless" status, such as the right to hold Government posts, to travel to countries where "stateless" are undesirable (including China) etc.

All they so far got in return for their sacrifice to the Crown is the right to apply for naturalisation. But life is short, and rehabilitation urgent. Is this fair? Is this democratic?

QUESTION MARK

Mt. Cameron Memorial

Sir,—The Government, faced with a colossal deficit, is trying to raise money by every means possible. The recent increase in duty on spirits and tobacco and the restaurant levy are instances.

It is time for the Government to save as much as possible, and not to incur unnecessary expenditure. Yet in the Government Gazette the other day, there was a notice calling for tenders for the demolition of the Japanese memorial on Mount Cameron.

While agreeing with the view entertained by many residents that the structure should go, I think that the present is definitely not the time to embark on such expense. People with construction experience have said that it would cost not less than \$50,000 to raze the memorial to the ground. In view of the Colony's huge deficit, shouldn't we postpone the demolition project and save our Treasury this large sum of money? Lower Levels.

Catholic Elements Said Anti-Jewish

Warsaw, Dec. 4.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman declared at a news conference that certain elements of the Catholic Church were contributing to the instigation of anti-Semitic acts which, he said, were "sporadic" after the July 1 pogrom in Kielce and still were occurring.

The spokesman exhibited a sixteenth century painting depicting the ritual murder of a child by Jews and a glass-enclosed coffin with a mummified body which, he said, reposed near the altar of a Jesuit church at Leczyca, Lodz and "served as a drastic propaganda stimulus to instigate the Polish population against Jews."—Associated Press.

WOMAN SCULPTOR'S SUCCESS

Washington, Dec. 4.

The New York sculptor, Miss Brenda Putnam, defeated six competing male artists and won an award of \$1,500 for designing a gold medal to be presented to Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King.

The medal was authorised by Congress last March 22 for his services as Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations during the war.—Associated Press.

GALLANTRY IN GREECE

London, Dec. 4.

For great gallantry and determination of the highest order in clandestine operations behind enemy lines in Greece in 1943, Lieutenant-Commander C. M. B. (Mike) Cumberland, RNR retired, has been awarded a bar to his Distinguished Service Order, the London Gazette announced to-day.

Last week it was announced that Commander Cumberland, first reported to be a prisoner, was now unforgotten believed to have lost his life at the hands of the enemy on April 1, 1945, at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany.—Reuter.

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SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Did you say \$100? Well, that's the first hat you've bought in a long time that I can't afford to laugh at!"

